

CHATTERIS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T

OF

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR

THE YEAR ENDED

31 DECEMBER 1962



ANNUAL REPORT of the MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for the year ending 31st DECEMBER 1962

To the Chairman and Members of CHATTERIS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL:

I have pleasure in submitting to you my Annual Report upon the vital statistics and sanitary work of your District for the year ending 31st December, 1962.

VITAL STATISTICS

ESTIMATED POPULATION - mid 1962 - 5,520

BIRTH RATE

The birth rate per thousand of the population showed a slight decrease, being 14.15 as against 15.94 in 1961.

There was one still birth during the year.

GENERAL DEATH RATE

The death rate for 1962 was 9.62 per thousand of the population, compared with 11.956 in 1961. The total number of deaths in the Urban District during 1962 was 53, whereas in 1961 it was 66. For comparison I have set out below death rates as previously reported.

1937	12.35	per thousand of the population	
1938	9.94	"	"
1939	11.10	"	"
1945	13.99	"	"
1946	13.17	"	"
1947	14.41	"	"
1948	11.89	"	"
1950	9.45	"	"
1951	8.18	"	"
1952	6.87	"	"
1953	11.16	"	"
1954	10.37	"	"
1955	9.10	"	"
1956	9.82	"	"
1957	9.3	"	"
1958	9.82	"	"
1959	9.80	"	"
1960	13.55	"	"
1961	11.956	"	"

NATURAL INCREASE OF THE POPULATION

During 1962 the number of births exceeded the number of deaths by 25.

INFANT MORTALITY

The death rate of infants under one year of age per thousand live births was 38.50, compared with 34.09 in 1961. The total number of deaths was 3 in 1962, 3 in 1961 and 2 in 1960.

HEALTH SERVICES AND PREVENTIVE MEDICINE IN THE AREA

Staff: One part-time Medical Officer of Health
 One part-time Public Health Inspector



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NURSING SERVICE & HEALTH VISITORS SERVICE

The Nursing Service and the Health Visitors Service is totally inadequate since one of our two Nurses left Chatteris in Sept. 1962. Locum and relief nurses have helped fill the gap but they have to travel a considerable distance and they are not immediately available. There have been embarrassing situations when patients have required the Nurses Services while she has been attending to Confinements. Several times I have had to pour oil on troubled waters of disgruntled and grumbling patients. In short the Nursing Service has become a desperate situation.

The solution I think is twofold.

- 1) Build two self contained flats immediately

Two Nurses sharing a Council house is most unsatisfactory; it has already been tried with disastrous results in the case of the two Harris Sisters who soon fell out of step.

- 2) Increase incentives with greater private use of cars, more off duty and possible overtime pay. I understand these measures are already being practiced in other Counties.

Health Visiting in Chatteris is almost non-existent. Our present Nurse is a Health Visitor but she is too occupied with her nursing duties to find time for visiting. A relief Health Visitor from Ely 12 miles away puts in a few hours a week but she obviously cannot have the interest in Chatteris as would a resident Nurse.

The Home Help Service is adequate.

HEALTH EDUCATION

There is no local Health Education beyond that provided by the National Press, radio and television. The hazards to health caused by cigarette smoking are adequately propagated by these media. Over eating by far the greatest hazard is not mentioned.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

There is a full 24hour Service provided by the Mental Health Officers from County Hall, March. There is one experienced officer appointed for Chatteris and he is backed up by others. This Service is very good indeed.

CHIROPODY SERVICE

A private Chiropodist is employed by the local chemist. Old age pensioners are partly subsidized by the "Good Companions" a voluntary body which entertains and helps to provide for the over 65's.

ANTE NATAL CARE

There is a weekly Ante Natal Clinic run by the local Medical Practitioners and assisted by the midwife. Each case is seen monthly and near term fortnightly and weekly. Abnormal cases are adequately provided for at Cambridge or Wisbech. The Nursing Homes at March and Ely take a fair proportion of normal cases.

The NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE

This is provided by two Medical Practitioners and conducted in a modern up to date building. They are aided by a Nurse Assistant who can carry out emergency dressings. Hospitals at Doddington, Cambridge and Wisbech provide good institutional treatment. Fortunately for most cases there are no long waiting lists and acute emergencies are always promptly accepted.

THE AMBULANCE SERVICE

The Ambulance Service is excellent and very promptly expedited. Unfortunately there is only one driver and he is expected to be on duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. This is too much responsibility even for a keen man.

CHILD GUIDANCE

There is a Child Guidance Centre at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, from which advice can be sought in difficult cases of emotional or behaviour aberrations.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

Wisbech and District Water Board is the Statutory Authority, and a piped mains supply from Marham, Norfolk, is provided to 1726 houses directly, whilst 137 houses are only supplied by standpipes. The remaining houses in the outlying rural area have no piped supply. The houses which are only supplied by standpipes are mainly in poor structural condition and provide some guide as to the possible size of any slum clearance scheme which may be envisaged.

It is essential that piped mains supply should be afforded to the outlying districts of the area as soon as possible, not only to continue to attract workers to the fen area but also to provide a satisfactory standard of health and amenity.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Direct labour collection has resulted in the work executed reaching a higher standard.

The labour shortage hampers work at the Refuse Dump, but the situation here is generally becoming more satisfactory.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

There are no natural rivers or streams within the Urban Area. The town is situated on a layer of Kimmeridge clay thrown up and forming high land above the fen. The rainfall in the area has always gravitated on the east and west sides into the low-lying fens. This outfall is intercepted by the artificial "cuts" and "rivers" made some three hundred years ago when the fens were reclaimed.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

This is strictly on the water carriage system in the Urban Area.

SCHOOLS

The schools are all supplied with piped water, and the general sanitary conditions are satisfactory.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Both Acre Fen and Nightlayer Pumping Stations are going well.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Members,
Your obedient servant,

H. S. Betson

Medical Officer of Health.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Estimated population, mid 1962 = 5,520

Comparability Factors: Births 1.00 Deaths .99

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Live births - legitimate	42	27	69
Live births - illegitimate	6	3	9
Live birth rate per thousand population = 14.15			
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births = 11.53			
Still births	1		1
Still birth rate per thousand live and still births = 12.6			
	49	30	79

INFANT DEATHS

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age	1	-	1
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks old	1	-	1
Deaths of infants under 1 week old	1	-	1

INFANT MORTALITY RATE

Total infant deaths per thousand live births	= 38.50
Infant deaths per thousand live births, legitimate	= 38.50
Infant deaths per thousand live births, illegitimate	=
Neo-natal mortality rate (under 1 month) per thousand live births	= 25.80
Early neo-natal mortality rate (under 1 week) per thousand live births	= 12.90

PRE-NATAL MORTALITY RATE

Combined still births and deaths under 1 week per thousand live and still births	= 25.80
Maternal mortality rate, including abortions	= Nil

DEATHS The main causes of death were:

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Infective and Parasitic disease	1	-	1
Malignant neoplasm stomach	3	-	3
Malignant neoplasm lung bronchus	1	-	1
Malignant neoplasm breast	1	1	2
Malignant neoplasm uterus	-	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	5	3	8
Vascular lesions of nervous system	1	5	6
Coronary disease angina	2	2	4
Other heart disease	9	4	13
Pneumonia	3	1	4
Bronchitis	-	2	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	-	1	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	-	2	2
Other defined and ill defined diseases	2	1	3
Motor vehicle accidents	1	-	1
Suicide	1	-	1
	<u>30</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>53</u>

Death rate per thousand population = 9.62

SUMMARY OF FOOD INSPECTIONS

1962

1. Number of Food Premises

Cafes	1.	Fishmongers	2.
Hotels	2.	Grocers	14.
Milk Producers	3.	Butchers	6.
Milk Retailers	3.	Greengrocers	7.
Bakers	4.		

2. Number of premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955, and number of Dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949 - 1954

Ice Cream Retailers	15
Ice Cream Producers	-
Sausage Producers	5
Number of Dairies	3

3. Number of Inspections of Registered Food Premises
Number of Inspections of Food Premises including above

4. Disposal of Condemned Food

Condemned food is disposed of by burning in the refuse incinerator, except for large articles and tinned foods which are normally buried with four feet of cover and surrounded with a nine-inch layer of quick-lime.

5. Condemned Food

The total quantity of food condemned during the year is as under:-

a) Fresh Meat

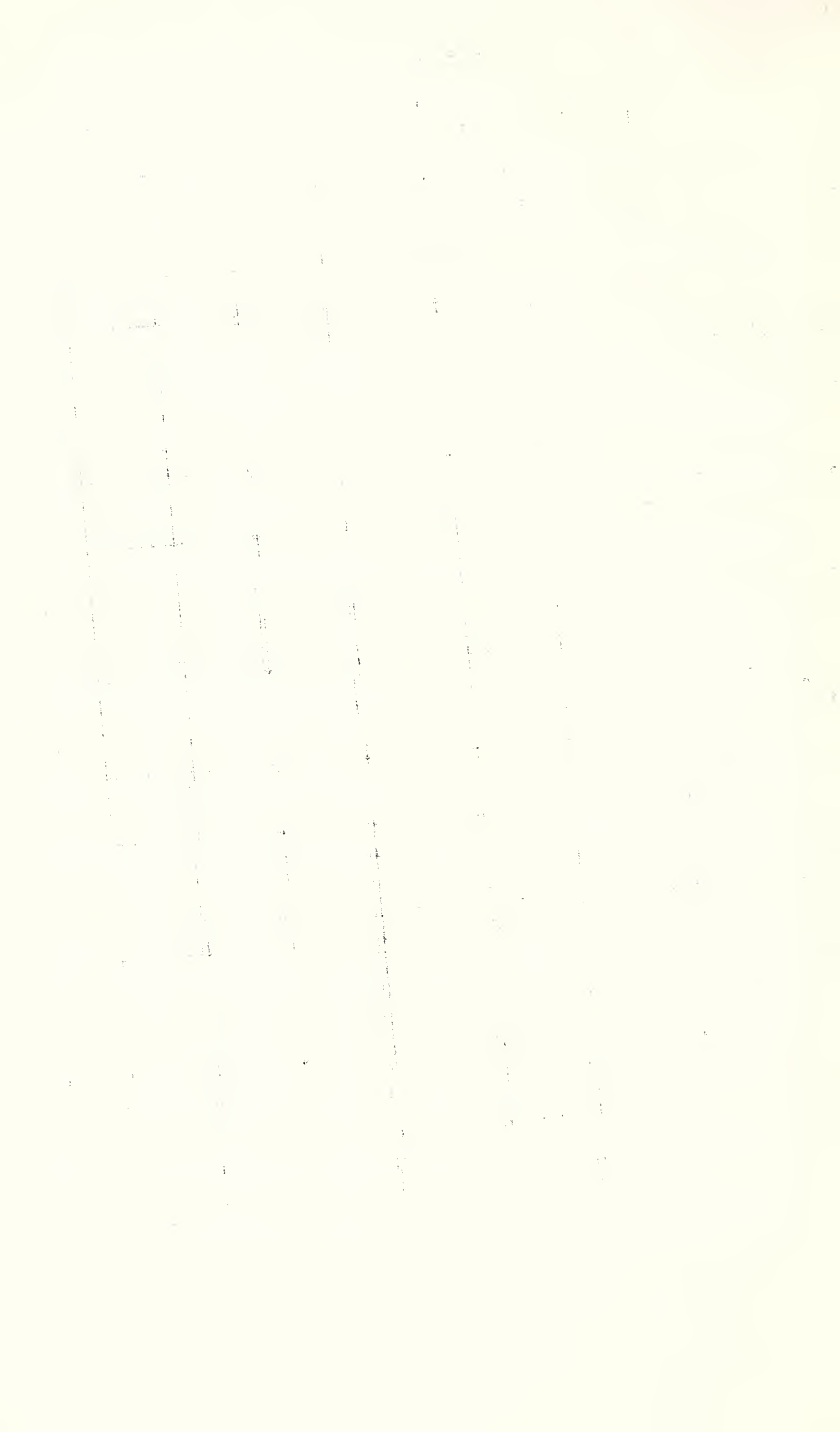
Pork	421 lbs.
Beef	295 lbs.
Mutton	12 lbs.

b) Tinned Foods

Meat	116 lbs. 15 oz.
Fruit	40 lbs.
Vegetables	15 lbs. 10 oz.
Miscellaneous	43 lbs. 6 oz.

MEAT INSPECTION

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	395	-	-	583	1476	-
Number inspected	395	-	-	583	1476	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>						
<u>Whole carcasses condemned</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	24	-	-	16	31	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	6.04	-	-	2.74	2.1	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
<u>Whole carcasses condemned</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	-	-	-	13	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.39	-	-	-	0.87	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1962
FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT OF CHATTERIS
IN THE COUNTY OF CAMBRIDGESHIRE
FACTORIES ACTS. 1937 - 1939

Prescribed Particulars of the Administration
of the Factories Act. 1937

PART 1 OF THE ACT

1 - INSPECTIONS for purpose of provisions as to Health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspector)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories in which Secs. 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	4	40	-	-
Factories not included above in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	18	172	-	-
Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
Total	22	212	-	-

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	3	3	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	--	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	1	1	-	-	-

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found (continued)

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
<u>Sanitary Conveniences</u>					
a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	-	-
c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other defects against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	6	6	-	-	-

PART VI of the ACT
OUT-WORK
 (sections 110 and 111)
 NIL RETURN

Signature

H. S. Bhatia

Medical Officer
 of Health

Date: 27th January 1964.

